

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
SUFFOLK COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PARKS,  
RECREATION AND CONSERVATION  
MINUTES OF JUNE 19, 2008  
THIRD HOUSE, MONTAUK, N.Y.**

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT**

Miles Borden	Trustee, Town of Smithtown
Gil Cardillo	Vice Chairman, Trustee, Town of Riverhead
Gregory Dawson	Trustee, Town of Islip
John Fritz	Chairman, Trustee, Town of Babylon
Alexander McKay	Trustee, Town of Huntington
Bill Shilling	Member of the Board
Todd Stebbins	Member of the Board
Richard F. White, Jr.	Trustee, Town of East Hampton

**ABSENT**

Ray Corwin	Member at Large
Scott Hilary	Trustee, Town of Southold
Gary Olsen	Trustee, Town of Brookhaven

**PARKS DEPARTMENT**

John W. Pavacic	Commissioner
Tracey Bellone	Deputy Commissioner
William B. Sickles	Senior Superintendent of Parks
Ron Glogg	Park Supervisor II
Colleen Hofmeister	Principal Contracts Examiner
Ann Rothenberg	Assistant to the Commissioner

**GUESTS**

Lauretta Fischer	Principal Environmental Analyst, Planning Department
Janet Longo	Deputy Director, Real Property Acquisitions and Management
Thomas Ryan	Office of Legislator Vilorio-Fisher
Jay Schneiderman	Suffolk County Legislator

Chairman Fritz called the meeting to order.

**PUBLIC PORTION**

Tom Jones - Suffolk Committee for Camping

Mr. Jones said he thinks what the County is proposing at the outer beach in Montauk is a wonderful idea for residents and fishermen and hopes it goes through.

Lou Farr

Mr. Farr reviewed points on extreme tides and feels it is necessary to have an auxiliary emergency campground. If campers are asked to leave the beach, having an auxiliary campground area will alleviate money refund issues and make it easier for all interested parties.

Chairman Fritz asked Ron Glogg to give an update on the outer beach.

Ron Glogg, Park Supervisor – Theodore Roosevelt County Park

Mr. Glogg reported from the west end of the beach we adjoin property owned by the Town of East Hampton (which is a public beach parking lot). Currently that border is closed off due to least terns and piping plovers.

Sites 1 up to 28 are pretty well established and in good shape.

Sites 29 to 110 are currently open and are by the break for the airport landing zone for people flying into the airport.

Right now there are 110 established campsites. In addition, Parks is accommodating 25 slide-on units. Currently Shagwong Point is open to those units. From the airport opening to Shagwong Point is improving and open for day trippers. With improvements, Parks is hopeful that we can open some sites in that area for the July 4<sup>th</sup> weekend.

Last year Parks got up to 135 campsites plus the slide-ins. It was a good season. Our limit is 200 campsites. The sand is building up and getting better.

Oyster Pond is the eastern boundary of the beach. In the past 20 – 25 years it has had tremendous erosion. As a result, people migrated to the western portion.

Will Young - Montauk Surfcasters

Mr. Young reported birds have nested on the beach at Smith Point and, as a result, fishermen do not have access. Six miles of beach have been lost to fishing. This problem can reoccur every year. If Parks could take a look at this situation and come up with some suggestions, he'd appreciate it.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MAY 15<sup>th</sup>, 2008**

**A motion to accept the minutes was made by Trustee White and seconded by Trustee McKay. The minutes were unanimously approved by a vote of 8-0-0.**

**PRESENTATION BY DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND REAL ESTATE**

Lauretta Fischer proposed one acquisition. A colored site map was distributed describing the property.

Long Pond County Greenbelt – Zebrowski & Mulville Estate Property

The acquisition of 10.3 acres in Noyack, Town of Southampton. This will be acquired under the Suffolk County Multifaceted Land Preservation Program – Open Space Preservation.

**A motion to approve this acquisition was made by Trustee White and seconded by Trustee Cardillo. The motion was unanimously approved by a vote of 8-0-0.**

**COMMISSIONER'S REPORT**

Commissioner Pavacic asked Colleen Hofmeister to report on the Bergen Point RFP.

### Bergen Point Golf Course RFP

Colleen Hofmeister reported the Bergen Point Golf Course RFP is currently with the County Attorney's office. We're awaiting their final approval at which time it will be advertised. The RFP process is lengthy – best case anticipated for advertising and getting proposals back is by the end of the summer.

### Coindre Hall RFP

Colleen Hofmeister reported we are in the final process of drafting an RFP for Coindre Hall. We currently have three caterers who have been operating there in tandem. We will be looking for a volunteer from the Trustees to serve on the RFP Committee and the RFP will be distributed to the Trustees for approval as soon as it is completed.

Trustee McKay said he will be available for meetings related to the Coindre Hall RFP if they occur after the summer months.

### Smith Point Outer Beach Auxiliary Access Point – Pilot Program

Commissioner Pavacic reported that at a prior Trustees meeting he discussed opening up an auxiliary access area and establishing a gate at the far east end. Aerial photographs and a narrative were distributed to the Trustees at that time. This would be a pilot project that would start later this year. This proposal would not allow access through the campground during the active part of the camping season. To ensure the highest degree of public safety, the proposed time period will commence after Veterans' Day (around mid November) and end on March 1<sup>st</sup>. One of the concerns was that there be a nominal impact to the campers. The Commissioner asked for Trustees' comments on this proposal.

Chairman Fritz commented that the beach is now closed due to piping plover chicks between cut 1 and 1A. Those chicks will be fledged in about 3 weeks and the beach can be reopened. Chairman Fritz reported he was told there are 16 more nests down the beach which precludes any outer beach use. In the past the fishermen have been able to reach the inlet along Burma Road. They don't really need the outer beach, but because it's so difficult to control how many people access through Burma Road, the whole area would be closed to the inlet. Therefore a suggestion was made that only fishermen be allowed on Burma Road. State Parks has a rule where there has to be fishing equipment for every adult in a vehicle and every adult must be actively involved in fishing. Another thought to cut down on the day trippers is to permit fishermen access before 7:00 AM or after 5:00 PM. Access through the campground from November 12<sup>th</sup> to March will only allow about 2 weeks for surf fishermen.

**A motion to approve the Smith Point Outer Beach Auxiliary Access Point Pilot Program was made by Trustee Borden and seconded by Trustee Stebbins. The motion was unanimously approved by a vote of 8-0-0.**

Chairman Fritz asked for further study on access around the cut 1A blockage.

### L.I. Dog

The Commissioner reported Parks recently met with Long Island Dog and have set up a field trip to review two, possibly three, potential open border dog parks.

Trustee Fritz reported he was told that at West Hills Dog Park county employees have to pick up dog waste.

Bill Sickles responded that waste clean-up is done daily at Blydenburgh and West Hills Dog Parks.

Trustee McKay expressed his concern that if dog owners don't pick up waste in the defined areas, what is going to happen in these free range areas?

Commissioner Pavacic responded this is an issue that will have to be addressed before Parks opens up other areas. Parks might consider these as pilot projects instead of permanently designating them to see how the users clean up after their dogs.

The Commissioner also reported Parks will be looking at a permit program. The Town of Brookhaven has an annual fee structure – a “two” fee structure: one fee for town residents and one for non-residents. The dog is issued a tag and dog owners are required to carry a permit. This helps to address issues that may arise.

#### Montauk Auxiliary Campground

The Commissioner reported that some meeting attendees reviewed this site prior to today’s meeting. There was a detailed proposal that was distributed to the Trustees, as well as aerial photographs of this pilot project. Parks believes this is a Type 2 action under SEQRA and, therefore, is not required to go before CEQ. The Commissioner asked for a vote on this pilot project.

Legislator Schneiderman said he believes CEQ still has to make a determination if it’s a Type 2 project.

The Commissioner asked for a vote subject to a determination as to whether or not it has to go before CEQ.

**A motion to approve the Montauk Auxiliary Campground Pilot Program was made by Trustee Stebbins and seconded by Trustee McKay. The motion was unanimously approved by a vote of 8-0-0.**

#### CHAIRMAN’S REPORT

##### Fishing Pier at Smith Point

Chairman Fritz reported there has been a set back. The three bids received were rejected and it has to go out for re-bid.

##### Trustee for Southampton

Chairman Fritz asked if there has been any movement filling this vacancy.

Commissioner Pavacic reported that some time ago letters were sent to the Town Supervisor of Southampton and the Town Supervisor of Shelter Island. He will follow-up with a phone call.

##### Scully Estate

The Chairman asked if the Scully Estate is going to be a nature study for the county.

Commissioner Pavacic responded it is going to be an environmental center.

Colleen Hofmeister reported there was a recent meeting at the office of the County Executive and it looks like the contract is finally close to execution.

##### Parcels in Lindenhurst

Chairman Fritz asked if Legislator Horsley is coming to the next meeting.

Deputy Commissioner Bellone responded he is coming to the July meeting.

## **ROUND TABLE**

### **Third House**

Trustee White asked if Legislature Schneiderman might be able to get more funding for Third House.

Legislator Schneiderman responded he attempted to get money in the '09 capital budget to finish this building. The general response was now that the exterior is done, it's off the priority list. Legislator Schneiderman said he did not succeed in getting additional money. There may be some money in the current capital budget that is uncommitted that could be used to finish the job. He reported he will need support from a lot of different directions. He could put in a bill to shift some of the money towards this project if he has the Commissioner's support, as well as the support of others.

Commissioner Pavacic said there have been some state grants to support this project. Legislator Schneiderman suggested perhaps some money can be raised locally. Commissioner Pavacic reported we are looking at the Parks Foundation as a venue to accept donations.

Legislator Schneiderman said he would try to get some money in place to this project. Money is very tight right now and he would like to get as much support as possible.

**A motion to support a resolution to request a reallocation of capital funds to continue the interior renovations at Third House at Theodore Roosevelt County Park was made by Trustee McKay and seconded by Trustee White. The motion was approved by a vote of 6-0-2. Trustee Shilling and Trustee Stebbins abstained.**

### **Charter Revision Commission**

Deputy Commissioner Bellone reported that Parks requested an opinion from the County Attorney as to whether or not the Trustees appointed by the County Executive and Presiding Officer are voting members of the Board. That opinion was subsequently received by Parks informing us their votes do count as part of the majority.

Trustee McKay stated that the Charter does not reflect that these votes will count as part of the majority and this should be clarified in the Charter to make that perfectly clear.

Charter revisions will be discussed at the next Trustees meeting on July 17<sup>th</sup>.

### **Bathrooms Facilities at Indian Island**

Trustee Cardillo expressed his concern regarding the fans not always working at the port-a-potties.

Bill Sickles reported that the fans were checked after the last meeting. One fan was not working properly and this was immediately repaired. The fans will be routinely checked.

Chairman Fritz announced the next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, July 17, 2008 at Indian Island County Park.

**A motion to adjourn was made by Trustee White and seconded by Trustee Borden. Unanimously approved by a vote of 8-0-0.**